## **REMARKS**

This *second* preliminary amendment corrects the numbering of the pending claims, and is submitted as a replacement for the claims submitted on November 21, 2001. Apart from the numbering, this claim set is identical to the earlier set of new claims. No fees are believed necessary and no new matter has been presented. Support for the new claims can be found, inter alias, at page 2, line 1 through page 4, line 17, pages 5-8 and 15-17, as well as in the original claims.

The claims in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. In the event that the claims are not deemed allowable, applicant's representative requests an opportunity to interview with the Examiner. The Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below to discuss any issues that arise during examination.

Dated: January 17, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

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